

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2042
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
INCREASE IN PER CAPITA INCOME
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the per capita income in the country has increased over the years ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the rise in prices of essential commodities is disproportionate to rise in per capita income ;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken to rectify the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The per capita income in the country at current prices during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been estimated at Rs. 21,142, Rs. 23,222 and Rs. 25,825, respectively. The growth rates in per capita income at current prices in these three years are 11.3 per cent, 9.8 per cent and 11.2 per cent, respectively. In real terms, the per capita income at constant (1999- 2000) prices has risen by 7.2 per cent, 6.1 per cent and 6.9 per cent, respectively during 2003- 04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(c), (d) and (e) As per the information obtained from Department of Consumer Affairs, prices of certain commodities such as wheat and pulses have registered an upward trend, during the current year.

The reasons for the rise in prices of these commodities are shortfall in domestic supplies relative to demand and hardening of international prices. The prices of other essential commodities have generally remained within reasonable levels.

The Government has taken various measures for controlling the rise in prices of essential commodities, which interalia include, import of wheat by the State Trading Corporation, permitting private trade to import wheat at zero duty from 9.9.2006, ban on export of pulses, reduction in customs duty on import of pulses to zero, import of pulses by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), reduction in duty on palm group of oils by 10 percentage points, banning of export of sugar, permitting import of sugar at zero duty and regulatory measures taken by Forwards Markets Commission

(FMC) to contain volatility in the futures prices of wheat, sugar, pulses, etc.